28. The method of claim 26, wherein the conjugate is administered to intestinal epithelial mucosal tissue.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein the conjugate is administered as an aerosol.

30. The method of claim 26, wherein the conjugate is administered to pulmonary epithelial mucosal tissue.

31. The method of claim 26, wherein the conjugate is administered to nasal epithelial mucosal tissue.

32. The method of claim 26, wherein the conjugate is of the drug and the FcRn binding partner.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an antineoplastic compound.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an immunoactive compound.

35. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is a cardiovascular drug.

36. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is a respiratory drug.

37. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is a neuromuscular blocking drug.

38. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an antiparkinson drug.

39. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is a diuretic drug.

40. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an enzyme.

41. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an intravenous anesthetic.

42. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an antiepileptic.

43. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is a chemotherapeutic.

44. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an antiviral.

45. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is a hormone.

46. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is a peptide or a protein.

47. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an antihypertensive.

23 48. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is insulin.

24 49. The method of claim 32, wherein the drug is an antimicrobial compound.

25 50. The method of claim 26, wherein the FcRn binding partner is a Fc fragment of IgG.

26 51. The method of claim 26, wherein the FcRn binding partner is non-specific IgG or an FcRn binding fragment of non-specific IgG.

27 52. The method of claim 26, wherein the FcRn binding partner is an Fc fragment of IgG.

28 53. The method of claim 26, wherein the drug or antigen is covalently bound to the FcRn binding partner.

29 54. The method of claim 26, wherein the conjugate is of the antigen and the FcRn binding partner.

30 55. The method of claim 26, wherein the antigen is characteristic of a tumor.

31 56. The method of claim 26, wherein the mammal is an adult.

32 57. The method of claim 26, wherein the mammal is a human.

33 58. The method of claim 57, wherein the human is an adult.

34 59. The method of claim 57, wherein the human is a child.

Remarks

The Examiner has rejected the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §112 as indefinite. In a telephone interview with the Examiner, the Examiner agreed that the Section 112 rejections would be withdrawn, subject to the following express statement on the record. The specification is clear that the conjugates of invention are directed to "active" immunization and not "passive" immunization. The "conjugates" of the invention as claimed are of two distinct entities, an FcRn binding partner and a drug or an antigen. Such conjugates can be genetically engineered as fusion proteins. The term "conjugate", however, does not refer to a native antibody unconjugated or unaltered to include a non-native component. Thus, the claims do not describe native antibodies per se and the methods do not pertain to passive immunization.

The Examiner also rejected the claims based on §103. The 103 rejections also were discussed with the Examiner during several telephone interviews with the Examiner. It was agreed that the amended claims distinguish over the prior art.